



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
| 10/587,505 | 07/27/2006 | Gunther Oskar Eckert | W1.2279 PCT US | 2484 |
| 7590 | 06/05/2008 | | EXAMINER | |
| Douglas R Hanscom Jones Tullar & Cooper P O Box 2266 Eads Station Arlington, VA 22202 | | | CHIEN, YUAN L | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2854 | |
| | | | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
| | | | 06/05/2008 | PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/587,505 | Applicant(s) ECKERT, GUNTHER OSKAR |
| | Examiner Yuan L. Chen | Art Unit 2854 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 July 2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 43-62 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 43-62 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group 1 Claims 43 – 44, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including step of deforming printing material in a **wave shape..**

Group 2 Claims 43 and 45 - 46, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including step of determining the **changeable** transverse elongation factor as a function of **mechanical or moisture-related** elongation.

Group 3 Claims 43 and 47 - 49, , drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including steps of providing a controllable **drive mechanism** and **continuously** controlling a **phase relation.**

Group 4 Claims 43, 47 - 48 and 50, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including steps of providing a controllable **drive mechanism** and controlling a **phase relation during a printing process.**

Group 5 Claims 43, 47 - 48 and 52 - 53, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including steps of providing a controllable **drive mechanism** and controlling a **phase relation** and **changing the position of the center point during operation.**

Group 6 Claims 43, 47 -48, 52 and 54, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including steps of providing a controllable **drive mechanism** and controlling a **phase relation** and **changing the position of the center point using the color tone.**

Group 7 Claims 43, and 51, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including step of providing a **control console.**

Group 8 Claims 43 and 55 - 57, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including steps of providing a **detection device**, and using the **image regulator** and **control unit** for matching the center point.

Group 9 Claims 43 and 58 - 59, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including step of directing the **middle one of the three air nozzles** opposite to others.

Group 10 Claims 43 and 60 - 61, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including step of using a **digital data set** and a **distribution plan.**

Group 11 Claims 43 and 62, drawn to a method for the transverse and longitudinal elongation of a web to be printed including step of using **optically detecting and digitally evaluating.**

2. Inventions listed as Group 1 – 11 do not directly relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.1, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: as shown in "Notification Regarding the Forwarding of the International Preliminary Report In Regarding to Patentability" mailed 05/08/2006, the cited D0, D2, D10 and D12 references establish a lack of unity *a posteriori* for the independent claim 1 in PCT/EP2005/050265, and the technical features of new independent Claim 43 (equivalent to claims 1 in PCT/EP2005/050265) are not the technical features that define a contribution over prior art.

3. Claim 43 links inventions 1 - 11. The restriction requirement among the linked inventions is **subject to** the nonallowance of the linking claim 43. Upon the indication of allowability of the linking claim(s), the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions **shall be withdrawn** and any claim(s) depending from or otherwise requiring all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) will be rejoined and fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104 **Claims that require all the limitations of an allowable linking claim will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.**

Applicant(s) are advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, the allowable linking claim, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Where a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

4. Restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper because all these inventions listed in this action are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious search and examination burden if restriction were not required because one or more of the following reasons apply:

- (a) the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification;
- (b) the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art due to their recognized divergent subject matter;
- (c) the inventions require a different field of search (for example, searching different classes/subclasses or electronic resources, or employing different search queries);
- (d) the prior art applicable to one invention would not likely be applicable to another invention;
- (e) the inventions are likely to raise different non-prior art issues under 35 U.S.C. 101 and/or 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse. Traversal must be presented at the time of election in order to be considered timely. Failure to timely traverse the requirement will result in the loss of right to petition under 37 CFR 1.144. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which of these claims are readable on the elected invention.

If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which of these claims are readable upon the elected invention.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yuan L. Chen whose telephone number is 571-270-

3799. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Yc

/Ren L Yan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2854